

BULK DEGAUSSER WITH FIXED ARRAYS OF MAGNET POLES**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A bulk degaussing apparatus and method for erasing magnetic media of various sizes. A plurality of fixed magnetic poles are predisposed around a gap for projecting magnetic flux across the gap such that the spacing of the poles is provided at roughly equal intervals or sets of intervals across the gap to form sets of magnetic fields at the staggered intervals. A media passage is provided such that across the width of the passage at every point, media passing therethrough is linearly exposed to the magnetic fields provided through the gap. An adapter constrains location of the media passing through the gap by way of the media passage such that the plurality of magnetic poles effectively degausses regions formed between the poles. Placement of the magnetic poles is provided with partial overlap of facing poles on opposite sides of the pathway of the media passage. Two or more multi-pole degaussing regions provided with differing orientation avoid regional weaknesses or singularities in the magnetic field.